

## CLAIMS

I claim:

- 1        1.     A portable fifth wheel release lever for opening  
2 release jaws of a fifth wheel, comprising:  
3        an elongate fulcrum member having a first end, a second end  
4 opposite the first end, and a medial portion therebetween;  
5        an elongate lever arm having a fulcrum attachment end, a  
6 handle end opposite the fulcrum attachment end, and a working  
7 span therebetween;  
8        a fulcrum member attachment sleeve pivotally attached to  
9 the fulcrum attachment end of said lever arm, the medial portion  
10 of said fulcrum member being slidable in the sleeve; and  
11        a fifth wheel release handle pull member extending from the  
12 working span of said lever arm.

1        2.    The portable fifth wheel release lever according to  
2 claim 1, wherein said lever arm further comprises:

3        a hollow, elongate first lever arm section having a first  
4 end defining the fulcrum attachment end of said lever arm and  
5 having a second end, the working span of said lever arm  
6 extending between the first end and the second end of the first  
7 lever arm section; and

8        an elongate second lever arm section telescopingly  
9 extending from the first lever arm section, and having stop end  
10 and having a handle end disposed outside of the first lever arm  
11 section.

1           3.    The portable fifth wheel release lever according to  
2   claim 2, further including:  
3           a bolt pivotally disposed transversely through the fulcrum  
4   attachment end of said lever arm;  
5           an elongate extension rod attached to and extending normal  
6   from said bolt, the extension rod being disposed substantially  
7   coaxially within said lever arm and having a stop end opposite  
8   said bolt;  
9           a first stop washer affixed to and extending radially about  
10   the stop end of said extension rod, ; and  
11          a second stop washer affixed to the stop end of the second  
12   lever arm section, the extension rod being slidable through the  
13   second stop washer with the first stop washer extending into the  
14   second lever arm section, precluding removal of said second  
15   lever arm section from said first lever arm section.

1           4.    The portable fifth wheel release lever according to  
2 claim 1, wherein said fifth wheel release handle pull member  
3 further comprises:

4           a flexible fifth wheel release handle pull chain extending  
5 from the working span of said lever arm, the chain having a  
6 lever attachment end and a release handle attachment end portion  
7 opposite the lever attachment end; and

8           a hook adjustably secured to the release handle attachment  
9 end portion of the chain.

1           5.    The portable fifth wheel release lever according to  
2 claim 1, further including a bolt pivotally disposed  
3 transversely through the fulcrum attachment end of said lever  
4 arm, and having opposite ends extending therefrom, the fulcrum  
5 member attachment sleeve being immovably affixed to one of said  
6 ends of said bolt.

1           6.    The portable fifth wheel release lever according to  
2 claim 1, wherein:

3           said fulcrum member is slidably disposed within said  
4 fulcrum member attachment sleeve; and

5           said fulcrum member further includes a single stop flange  
immovably affixed generally about said medial portion thereof.

7           7. A portable fifth wheel release lever, comprising:  
8           an elongate fulcrum member having a first end, a second end  
9           opposite said first end, and a medial portion therebetween;  
10          a lever arm, comprising:  
11           a hollow, elongate first lever arm section having a  
12           fulcrum attachment end secured to said fulcrum member, a second  
13           lever arm extension end opposite said fulcrum attachment end,  
14           and a working span therebetween;  
15           an elongate second lever arm section telescopingly  
16           extending from said first lever arm section, and having a first  
17           lever arm section attachment end and a handle end opposite said  
18           first lever arm section attachment end; and  
19          a fifth wheel release handle pull member extending from  
20          said working span of said first lever arm section.

1        8.    The portable fifth wheel release lever according to  
2 claim 7, further including:

3        a bolt pivotally disposed transversely through said fulcrum  
4 attachment end of said lever arm;

5        an anchor washer disposed about said bolt, within said  
6 fulcrum attachment end of said lever arm;

7        an elongate extension rod disposed substantially coaxially  
8 within said lever arm, having an anchor end affixed to said  
9 anchor washer and a second lever arm section stop end opposite  
10 said anchor end;

11       a first stop washer affixed to said second lever arm  
12 section stop end of said extension rod, disposed within said  
13 second lever arm section; and

14       a second stop washer captured upon said extension rod and  
15 affixed to said first lever arm section attachment end of said  
16 second lever arm section, precluding removal of said second  
17 lever arm section from said first lever arm section.

1           9.   The portable fifth wheel release lever according to  
2 claim 7, further including a fulcrum member attachment sleeve  
3 pivotally secured to said fulcrum attachment end of said first  
4 lever arm section and surrounding said fulcrum member, pivotally  
5 securing said fulcrum member to said first lever arm section.

1           10.   The portable fifth wheel release lever according to  
2 claim 7, wherein said fifth wheel release handle pull member  
3 further comprises:

4           a flexible chain extending from said working span of said  
5 first lever arm section, having a lever arm attachment end and a  
6 release handle hook attachment end portion opposite said lever  
7 arm attachment end; and

8           a release handle attachment hook adjustably secured to said  
9 release handle hook attachment end portion of said chain.

1        11.    The portable fifth wheel release lever according to  
2 claim 7, further including:

3        a bolt pivotally disposed generally diametrically through  
4 said fulcrum attachment end of said lever arm, and having  
5 opposite ends extending therefrom; and

6        said fulcrum member attachment sleeve being immovably  
7 affixed to one of said ends of said bolt.

1        12.    The portable fifth wheel release lever according to  
2 claim 7, wherein:

3        said fulcrum member is slidably disposed within said  
4 fulcrum member attachment sleeve; and

5        said fulcrum member further includes a single stop flange  
6 immovably affixed generally about said medial portion thereof.



1        13. A portable fifth wheel release lever, comprising:  
2        an elongate fulcrum member having a first end, a second end  
3 opposite said first end, and a medial portion therebetween;  
4        an elongate lever arm having a fulcrum attachment end  
5 secured to said fulcrum member, a handle end opposite said  
6 fulcrum attachment end, and a working span therebetween;  
7        a flexible fifth wheel release handle pull chain extending  
8 from said working span of said first lever arm section, having a  
9 lever arm attachment end and a release handle hook attachment  
10 end portion opposite said lever arm attachment end; and  
11        a release handle attachment hook adjustably secured to said  
12 release handle hook attachment end portion of said chain.

1        14. The portable fifth wheel release lever according to  
2 claim 13, further including a fulcrum member attachment sleeve  
3 pivotally secured to said fulcrum attachment end of said lever  
4 arm and surrounding said fulcrum member, pivotally securing said  
5 fulcrum member to said lever arm.

1        15.    The portable fifth wheel release lever according to  
2 claim 13, wherein said lever arm further comprises:  
3        a hollow, elongate first lever arm section having a fulcrum  
4 attachment end secured to said fulcrum member, a second lever  
5 arm extension end opposite said fulcrum attachment end, with  
6 said working span disposed therebetween; and  
7        an elongate second lever arm section telescopingly  
8 extending from said first lever arm section, and having a first  
9 lever arm section attachment end and a handle end opposite said  
10 first lever arm section attachment end.

1        16. The portable fifth wheel release lever according to  
2 claim 15, further including:

3        a bolt pivotally disposed generally diametrically through  
4 said fulcrum attachment end of said lever arm;

5        an anchor washer disposed about said bolt, within said  
6 fulcrum attachment end of said lever arm;

7        an elongate extension rod disposed substantially coaxially  
8 within said lever arm, having an anchor end affixed to said  
9 anchor washer and a second lever arm section stop end opposite  
10 said anchor end;

11       a first stop washer affixed to said second lever arm  
12 section stop end of said extension rod, disposed within said  
13 second lever arm section; and

14       a second stop washer captured upon said extension rod and  
15 affixed to said first lever arm section attachment end of said  
16 second lever arm section, precluding removal of said second  
17 lever arm section from said first lever arm section.

1        17. The portable fifth wheel release lever according to  
2 claim 13, further including:

3        a bolt pivotally disposed generally diametrically through  
4 said fulcrum attachment end of said lever arm, and having  
5 opposite ends extending therefrom; and

6        said fulcrum member attachment sleeve being immovably  
7 affixed to one of said ends of said bolt.

1        18. The portable fifth wheel release lever according to  
2 claim 13, wherein:

3        said fulcrum member is slidingly disposed within said  
4 fulcrum member attachment sleeve; and

5        said fulcrum member further includes a single stop flange  
6 immovably affixed generally about said medial portion thereof.